



25th ANNIVERSARY

REMEMBERING SREBRENICA

LETTERS FROM BOSNIA

Dear Friend,

My life before the war was worthy of humanity. We worked, had our community and were happy about every new day. I had my family, my home, freedom and good relations with my neighbors. Imagine everything that was beautiful, that made your life normal and free, was lost in one day. It's horrifying. Unimaginable.

I will never forget the day when I found out that my husband was killed. The heaviness and pain in my heart. The feeling of not knowing how to tell my children and mother-in-law that they will never again feel their father's love; that he will never hug them again or get them a toy. The heaviness was overburdening my soul. How do I tell a mother and myself that my husband is gone? That I don't have his strength anymore; that I am alone and will be the only one there for my children. How do I explain to my mother-in-law, he was her only son. I held it in for days until I couldn't anymore. I felt like I was losing my mind. I had to tell them. The screaming and crying...I will never forget it, nor can I forget it.

I continued to fight and swore that I would talk to my children about their father. I didn't know anything about his remains for 12 years. His remains were identified and I gathered my strength to seek truth and justice. As such, every action matters not only to find the remains of our loved ones but to build a better future for my children and other children throughout the world. Without truth and justice there is no better future. I am and will be fighting for truth and justice until there is an atom of strength, health and willingness in me.

Sincerely,

Munera Avdić

Kotor Varoš